Claims

1. A solid unit dosage form comprising citalopram, **characterised in that** it is prepared by direct compression of a mixture of citalopram base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, or by filling of said mixture in a hard gelatine capsule.

2. The solid unit dosage form according to claim 1, **characterised in that** it is a tablet prepared by direct compression of a mixture of citalopram base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

3. The solid unit dosage form according to claim 1, **characterised in that** it is prepared by filling a mixture of citalopram base or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients in a hard gelatine capsule.

4. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 1-3~~ claim 1, **characterised in that** it does not contain a binder.

5. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 1-4,~~ claim 1 **characterised in that** it contains 2-60% w/w active ingredient calculated as citalopram base, preferably 10-40% w/w active ingredient calculated as citalopram base and more preferred 15-25% w/w active ingredient calculated as citalopram base.

6. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 1-5,~~ claim 1 **characterised in that** it contains a filler selected from lactose, sugars, preferably sorbitol, mannitol, dextrose, and/or sucrose, calcium phosphates, preferably dibasic, tribasic, hydrous and/or anhydrous, starch, modified starches, microcrystalline cellulose, calcium sulfate, and/or calcium carbonate.

7. The solid unit dosage form according to claim 6, **characterised in that** the filler is a microcrystalline cellulose, such as ProSolv SMCC90 or Avicel PH 200.

claim 1

8. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 1-7,~~ **characterised in that** it contains a lubricant selected from metallic stearates (magnesium, calcium, sodium), stearic acid, wax, hydrogenated vegetable oil, talc and colloidal silica.

9. The solid unit dosage form according to claim 8, **characterised in that** the lubricant is magnesium stearate or calcium stearate.

claim 1

10. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 1-9~~, **characterised in that** it is substantially free of lactose.

claim 1

11. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claim 1-10,~~ **characterised in that** the active ingredient is citalopram base.

claim 1

12. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 1-10,~~ **characterised in that** the active ingredient is citalopram hydrobromide or citalopram hydrochloride.

13. The solid unit dosage form according to claim 12, **characterised in that** the active ingredient is citalopram hydrobromide.

claim 12

14. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 12-13,~~ **characterised in that** the active ingredient is in the form of crystals with a median particle size below 20 µm.

claim 12

15. The solid unit dosage form according to ~~claims 12-13,~~ **characterised in that** the active ingredient is in the form of crystals with a median particle size of at least 40 µm, preferably in the range of 40 – 200 µm, even more preferred 45 – 150 µm and most preferred 50 – 100 µm.

16. Crystals of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of citalopram suitable for use in a solid unit dosage form according to claim 15, **characterised in that** the median particle size of the crystals is at least 40 µm.

17. Crystals according to claim 16, **characterised in that** the crystals are of citalopram hydrobromide or citalopram hydrochloride.

18. Crystals according to claim 17, **characterised in that** the crystals are of citalopram hydrobromide.

19. Crystals according to ~~claims 16-18,~~ claim 16 **characterised in that** the median particle size of the crystals is in the range of 40 - 200 µm, preferably 45 – 150 µm and even more preferred 50 – 120 µm.

20. Method for manufacture of crystals of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of citalopram having a median particle size of at least 40 µm and suitable for use in a solid unit dosage form according to claim 15, **characterised in that** a solution of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of citalopram in a suitable solvent system at a first temperature is first cooled down to a second temperature then seeded by addition of crystals of said citalopram salt followed by a holding time at said second temperature and a controlled cooling down to a third temperature whereupon said crystals are isolated by conventional solid/liquid separation techniques.

21. The method according to claim 20, **characterised in that** the median particle size of the crystals is in the range of 40 - 200 µm, preferably 45 – 150 µm and even more preferred 50 – 120 µm.

22. The method according to ~~claims 20-21~~, claim 20 **characterised in that** the dissolved substance is citalopram hydrobromide or citalopram hydrochloride.

23. The method according to claim 22, **characterised in that** the dissolved substance is citalopram hydrobromide.

24. The method according to ~~claims 20-23~~, claim 20 **characterised in that** the solvent system comprises one or more alcohols and optionally water.

25. The method according to claim 24, **characterised in that** the solvent system is a mixture of methanol and water.

26. The method according to claim 25, **characterised in that** the methanol:water weight ratio is in the range of 5:1 to 50:1; preferably 10:1 to 30:1 and more preferred 15:1 to 25:1.

27. The method according to ~~claims 20-26,~~ claim 20 **characterised in that** the solvent:solute weight ratio is in the range of 0.5:1 to 5:1, preferably 0.7:1 to 2:1 and more preferred 0.9:1 to 1.5:1.

28. The method according to ~~claims 20-27~~ claim 20, **characterised in that** said first temperature is in the range between 50 °C and the refluxing temperature of the solvent system, preferably between 60 °C and the refluxing temperature and more preferred between 64 °C and the refluxing temperature.

29. The method according to ~~claims 20-28;~~ claim 20 **characterised in that** said second temperature is in the range of 20-40 °C, preferably 25-35 °C.

30. The method according to ~~claim 20-29,~~ claim 20 **characterised in that** said holding time is in the range of 30 minutes to 7 days, preferably 1 hour to 4 days and more preferred 12 to 36 hours.

31. The method according to ~~claim 20-30;~~ claim 20 **characterised in that** said third temperature is in the range of 0-20 °C, preferably 5-15°.

32. The method according to ~~claim 20-31~~ claim 20 **characterised in that** said controlled cooling down is a gradual cooling down over a time span in the range of 5 minutes to 6 hours, preferably 15 minutes to 4 hours and more preferred 30 minutes to 2 hours.

33. The method according to ~~claim 20-32~~ claim 20, **characterised in that** said isolation of the crystals of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of citalopram from the mother liquor is performed by filtration.

Sub B1 cont

add B2

add E1